The Gentleman's Journal FOR THE WAR;

BEING A

Deſcription of the Fortified Cities and Towns of *Europe*:

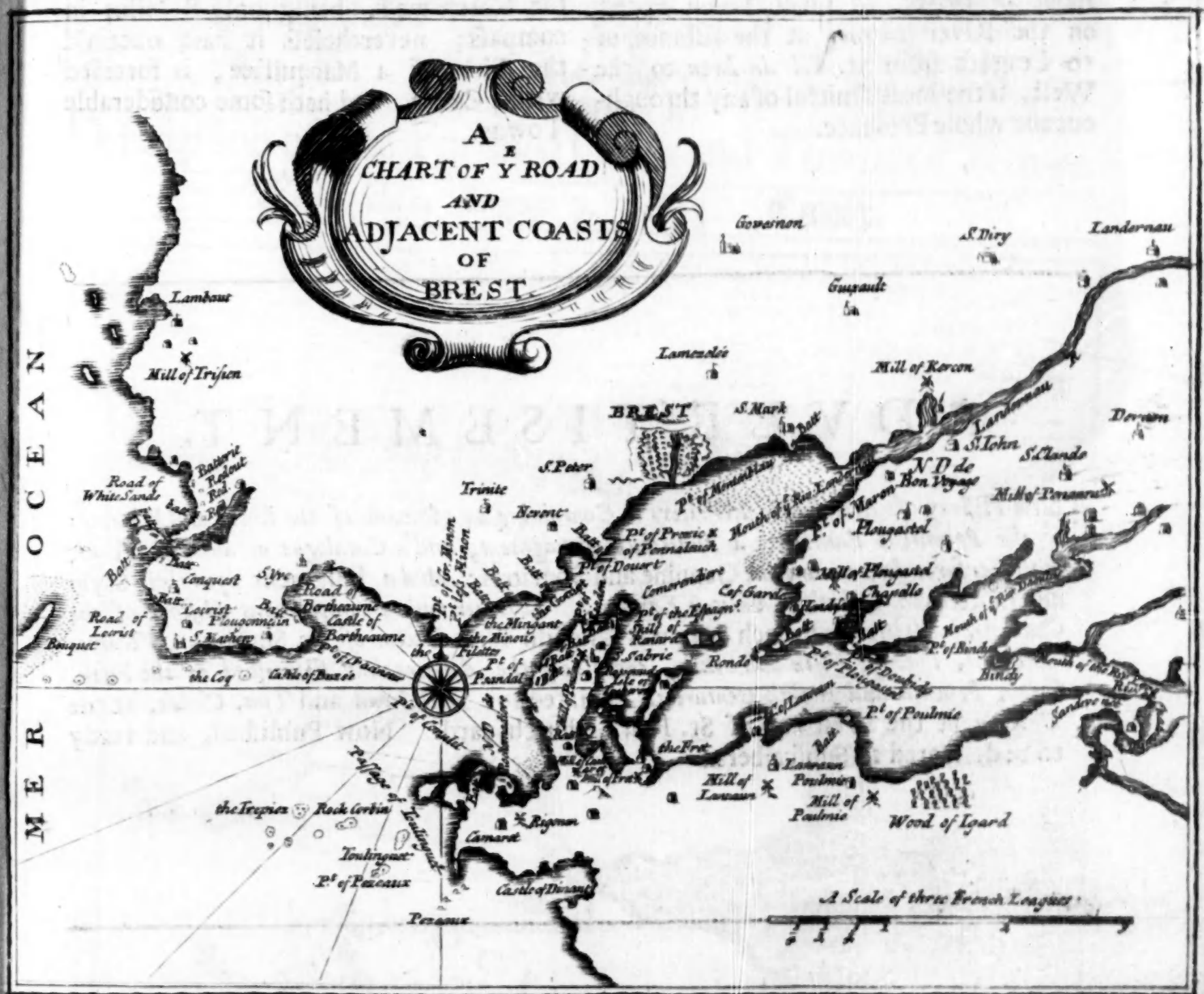
With an Explication of the Terms uſed in Fortification when they occur.

Wedneſday, Auguſt 2. 1693. **Breſt** and Coaſts Adjacent.

BREST.

THE Mart-town of *Breſt*, call'd in *Latin*, *Brivates Portus*, and heretofore *Geſocribale* or *Geſobrivate*, appertain'd at firſt to the Juriſdiction of the *Oſiſmii*, a People who inhabited the Lower *Bretaigne*, and were very conſiderable in the time of *Julius Caſar*. It is ſituated in the Latitude of 48 Degrees and the Longitude of 15 Degrees 20 Minutes, on the ſide of an Hill toward the Port, the Mouth whereof is defended by a ſtrong Caſtle built on a Rock. It is diſtant 12 Miles from Cape St. *Mabe*, 30 from *Quimper-corentin* to the North, and 14 from St. *Pol de Leon* to the South-weſt, being the Key and Bulwark of this Country, and one of the moſt convenient Harbours of *France*. And indeed, the Bay or Gulph of *Breſt*, into which the Sea flows through four different Paſſages, is eſteem'd as one of the faireſt and moſt ſafe Ports throughout *Europe*: Nevertheleſs its entrance, call'd the *Goulet*, is extremely difficult, by reaſon of certain Rocks, known by the names of the *Minous*, *Filettes* and *Minguant*, that lie hid under Water during the High Tides, and more eſpecially the latter, which ſtands in the midſt of the *Goulet*.

This Town is the Magazine of the Admiralty of *France* for thoſe Veſſels which ſail through the Ocean, and the uſual place of *Rendezvous* of the *French* Fleet, conſiſting, for the moſt part, of 70 Capital Ships, and a great number of others of a leſſer ſize.



About four or five Leagues from *Breſt* to the Weſt, ſtands the little Town and Haven of *Conqueſt*, over againſt the Iſle of *Oveſſant* or *Uſhant*; it is ſituated in the extreme bounds of the Province of *Bretaigne*, in a Quarter call'd *The Land's end*, *Ad fine Terra*, and its Harbour is well frequented with Ships that arrive on thoſe Coaſts. In paſſing a little farther through the ſame Road, we meet with the ſmall Village and Promontory of St. *Mahe* or St. *Matthew*, call'd St. *Matheus Hoeck* by the *Neitherlanders*, and *Gobaum* in *Latin*, taking its Name from

from an adjacent Abby: It is distant five Leagues from the Island of *Ovessant* to the East, four from *Brest* and seventeen from St. *Pol de Leon* to the South-west, and hath a very convenient and safe Harbour. But the Country round about *Lendernau*, a small Town seated on the River *Elorne*, at the distance of 10 Leagues from St. *Pol de Leon* to the West, is the most fruitful of any throughout the whole Province.

The Island of *Ovessant* or *Ushant*, call'd in *Latin Uxentius*, as also *Uxantis* and *Axantos* by *Pliny*, and *Uxantissena* by *Antoninus*, lies at the distance of 7 Leagues Westward from *Brest*, 55 from St. *Pol de Leon*, and 52 from *Quimper-corentin* to the North-west, being only 8 Miles in compass; nevertheless it hath obtain'd the Title of a Marquisate, is fortified with a Castle, and hath some considerable Towns.

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